

CLAIMS

1. A request method of a service request apparatus
that requests, to provide a service, a service
5 providing apparatus, which provides a service
associated with expendables via a network, comprising:
a step of acquiring information associated with
expendables from a device;
a step of transmitting the information associated
10 with the expendables to a service agent apparatus;
a step of receiving page information used to
provide a service according to the information
associated with the expendables from the service
providing apparatus designated by the service agent
15 apparatus; and
a step of requesting the service providing
apparatus to provide a service on the basis of the page
information that provides the service.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the
20 expendables include inks used by a printer device, and
the information associated with the expendables
includes information indicating remaining levels of the
inks.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step
25 of receiving includes a step of receiving page
information that displays icons corresponding to the

remaining levels of the inks from the service providing apparatus.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting includes a step of transferring the information associated with the expendables to a service providing apparatus designated by a uniform resource locator (URL) which is generated based on retailer information of the device and use language information of a device driver.

5. A providing method of a service providing apparatus which provides a service associated with expendables of a device, comprising:

a step of receiving information associated with expendables of a device from a client terminal via an agent apparatus and a network;

a step of generating page information used to present a service providing page according to the information associated with the expendables of the device to the client terminal; and

a step of transmitting the page information generated in the step of generating to the client terminal via the network.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the information associated with the expendables of the device includes information indicating remaining levels of inks used by a printer device.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of generating includes a step of generating page information which includes icons to be displayed in correspondence with the remaining levels of the inks.

5 8. A method of controlling an agent apparatus which mediates between a service providing apparatus that provides a service associated with expendables via a network, and a service request apparatus that requests a service, comprising:

10 a step of acquiring information associated with expendables from a device;

a step of generating access information required to access the service providing apparatus on the basis of the acquired information associated with the

15 expendables; and

a step of transmitting the generated access information to the service request apparatus.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the information associated with the expendables includes .

20 model information and retailer information of the device, language information of a driver of the device, and status information of the expendables.

10. A program for making a computer execute a request method of a service request apparatus of claim 1.

25 11. A program for making a computer execute a providing method of a service providing apparatus of claim 5.

12. A program for making a computer execute a providing method of a service providing apparatus of claim 8.

13. A computer-readable recording medium recording a program of claim 10.

14. A computer-readable recording medium recording a program of claim 11.

15. A computer-readable recording medium recording a program of claim 12.